

Kentucky Technology Business Incubators

Kentucky supports a network of technology business incubators to provide start-up and small firms with critical business assistance, in addition to low-cost office space, light manufacturing, and/or laboratory facilities.

Advanced Science and Technology Commercialization Center

The Advanced Science and Technology Commercialization Center (ASTeCC) is the University of Kentucky's incubator for multidisciplinary collaborations and start-up ventures. ASTeCC provides research space, as well as a suite of modern research instruments, to UK faculty; their students, staff, and postdoctoral associates; and scientists and engineers from new, for-profit, high-technology businesses.

The 80,000-square-foot ASTeCC building, located on the UK campus, features two types of lab space—faculty labs and labs for high-tech business start-ups that have a connection to UK faculty or staff, or that have licensed UK intellectual property. Faculty across the campus use ASTeCC as a hub for technology-transfer activities and an information source on new businesses.

The mission of the ASTeCC program is to support the university strategic plan by fostering interdisciplinary collaborations that will lead to economic development opportunities for the Commonwealth. ASTeCC currently houses six start-up companies, and 23 businesses have graduated from the facility.

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Agricultural Technologies Commercialization Center (AgTeCC)

Housed in the Kentucky Tobacco Research and Development Center (KTRDC) building on the University of Kentucky (UK) campus, the Agricultural Technologies Commercialization Center (AgTeCC) offers an optimal laboratory environment for start-up and emerging companies conducting research on crop-based agriculture. AgTeCC is fully equipped for plant biotechnology research and provides access to plant-growth and tissue-culture resources and services within the KTRDC. The facility is designed for the immediate-startup phase of a new company's operation, and is particularly suited to grant-supported (e.g. SBIR) spin-off activity initiated by UK faculty.

By providing facilities at minimum charge, AgTeCC enables a new company to begin proof-of-concept, product development or contract research at the earliest possible time during the challenging period of investment-seeking and technology transfer.

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iTRC (Information Technology Resource Center)

The iTRC (Information Technology Resource Center) is a University of Louisville resource serving government and businesses with innovative solutions and consulting in the application of Information Technology. The iTRC is a unit of the University of Louisville College of Business and Public Administration and is located on UofL's Shelby Campus in Louisville, Kentucky.

iTRC provides a wide portfolio of Homeland Security research, training, and consulting to local, state and federal government agencies or businesses seeking research and development support. iTRC can assist startups, small businesses, or local governments needing IT consultation and testing in applications, IT security, and comparisons of vendor solutions. It can serve even larger businesses or government agencies that have their own IT staff with a test bed site comprised of most major software and hardware platforms for the research, development, or testing of IT solutions.

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Kentucky Technology Inc.

Founded in 1988, KTI is a for-profit company owned by the University of Kentucky Research Foundation Inc. to enhance UK's mission to promote commercialization of research by providing private research laboratory and office space in several separate unique areas of operation on campus and at Coldstream. Campus locations at the Advanced Science and Technology Commercialization Center (ASTeCC) and the Agricultural Technologies Commercialization Center (AgTeCC) facilitate easy access for UK faculty who have both university research and private company responsibilities. Coldstream facilities include the Kentucky Technology Center, also known as the mini campus, and the Coldstream Center. The combined properties provide a continuum of space to support the location requirements of a business at any stage in its business cycle.

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Madison E-Zone

The Madison E-Zone is located in Covington, KY, just across the state line from Cincinnati. A non-profit corporation, the rapid business accelerator in Northern Kentucky currently serves 20 startup, emerging and existing high technology businesses. The state-of-the-art facility includes a boardroom, fully-wired for high-tech audio/visual communication, video conferencing, wireless local area network, network printing, local telephone service and voice mail.

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MetaCyte Business Lab

MetaCyte Business Lab provides access to a number of professional and technical service providers, such as regulatory consulting and legal assistance. Facilities available to MetaCyte clients include a 48,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art incubator building containing wet labs, private office suites, and shared conference and office amenities.

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Safety and Security Incubator

The Safety and Security Incubator will foster business development related to safety and security technologies. Located in Eastern Kentucky University's new College of Business & Technology building, the SSI facility will initially accommodate up to five startup business entities with plans currently in place for expansion. The incubator leverages the excellent reputation of EKU's College of Justice & Safety, Public Safety and Security Institute for Technology, College of Business & Technology and related programs.

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South-Central Kentucky Small Business Incubator

The South-Central Kentucky Small Business Incubator at Western Kentucky University's Center for Research and Development will house up to 20 start-up companies. Bowling Green Municipal Utilities has committed to creating a network operating center or a data center at the facility.

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